

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A carrier for a developer for developing an electrostatic image, comprising core particles, and a  
5 resin layer covering each of said core particles and containing carbon particles having a number average particle diameter of 0.01-0.1  $\mu\text{m}$ .
2. A carrier as claimed in claim 1, and having a weight  
10 average particle diameter of 25-65  $\mu\text{m}$  and such a particle diameter distribution that that portion of said carrier having a particle diameter of less than 37  $\mu\text{m}$  but no less than 26  $\mu\text{m}$  accounts for 1-60 % of a total weight of said carrier.
- 15 3. A carrier as claimed in claim 1, and having a weight average particle diameter of 35-60  $\mu\text{m}$  and such a particle diameter distribution that that portion of said carrier having a particle diameter of less than 37  $\mu\text{m}$  but no less  
20 than 26  $\mu\text{m}$  accounts for 10-50 % of a total weight of said carrier.
4. A carrier as claimed in claim 1, and having a  
25 specific resistance of  $10^9$ - $10^{15}$   $\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$ .
5. A carrier as claimed in claim 1, and providing an induced magnetic moment of 40-85 emu/g in an applied magnetic field of 1 KOe.
- 30 6. A developer for developing an electrostatic image, comprising a dry toner, and a carrier according to claim 1.
7. An image forming method comprising the steps of:  
contacting an image forming member bearing an  
35 electrostatic latent image thereon with a developer

according to claim 6 to develop the latent image with the developer to form a toner image on said image forming member;

- transferring said toner image to a transfer member;
- 5       collecting the toner and the carrier remaining on said image forming member after the transferring step; and
- recycling the collected toner and the carrier for use in the contacting step.

- 10       8. An image forming apparatus, comprising:
  - an image forming member adapted to bear an electrostatic latent image thereon;
  - means disposed adjacent to said image forming member for forming an electrostatic latent image on said image
  - 15       forming member;
  - a developing mechanism having a vessel containing a developer according to claim 6 for developing the latent image with the developer to form a toner image on said image forming member;
  - 20       a transferring mechanism for transferring said toner image from said image forming member to a transfer member;
  - a collecting mechanism located downstream of said transferring mechanism for recovering the toner and the carrier remaining on said image forming member; and
  - 25       a recycling mechanism for returning the collected toner and the carrier to said vessel.